



# Public Workshops Draft Program EIR Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program

Prepared by:  
Central Valley Regional Water Board

September 2010



# Introductions

- Central Valley Water Board Members
- Central Valley Water Board staff
- ICF International staff / Consultants
- CSUS Center for Collaborative Policy staff



SACRAMENTO STATE  
Center for Collaborative Policy

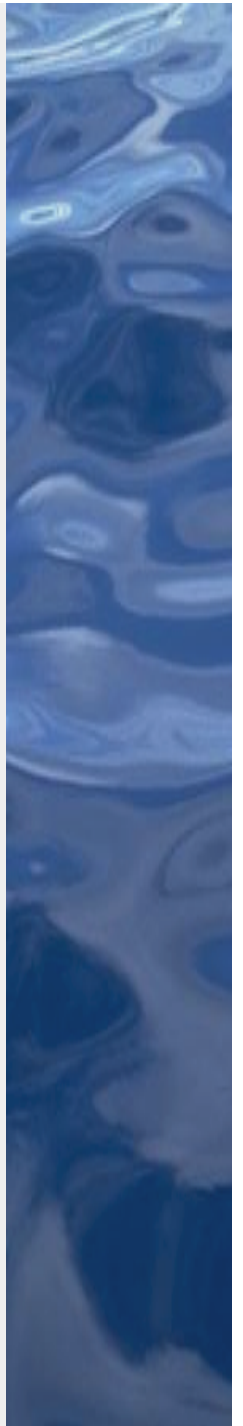


# Presentation Goals

- Review project background of the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP)
- Overview of the Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR)
  - 5 workgroup-developed program alternatives
  - staff preferred program alternative
  - environmental analysis
  - costs analysis
- Breakout sessions: comments and questions on the Draft PEIR

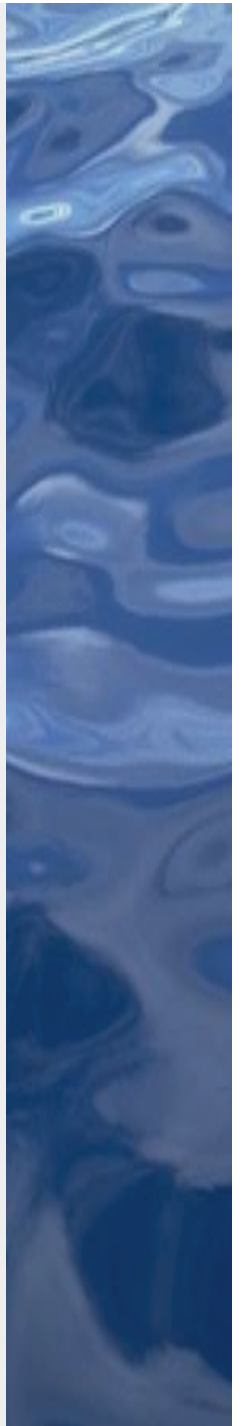
# Water Quality Board Context

- Water Quality Laws
  - Implement federal Clean Water Act and State Porter-Cologne Water Quality Act
  - State law provides broad authority to regulate discharges to all ground and surface waters
- General Approach to Regulation
  - Each program has same activities: monitoring, assessment, planning, implementation
- Other Activities Currently Regulated
  - Stormwater from cities, construction sites, industry; dairies; treated wastewater; contaminated sites



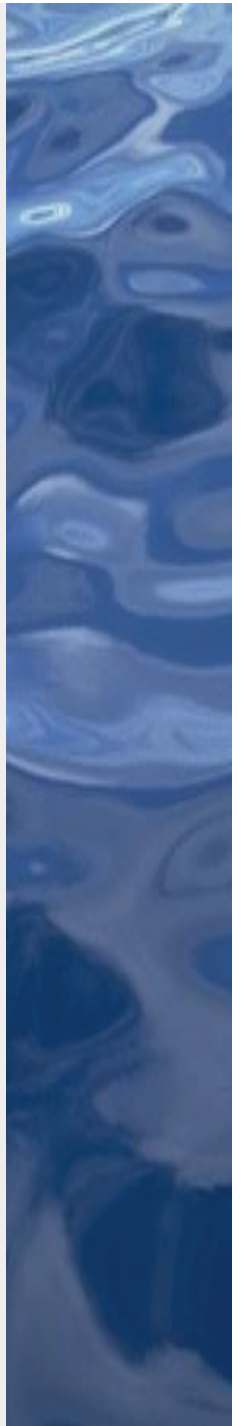
# Water Quality Board Context

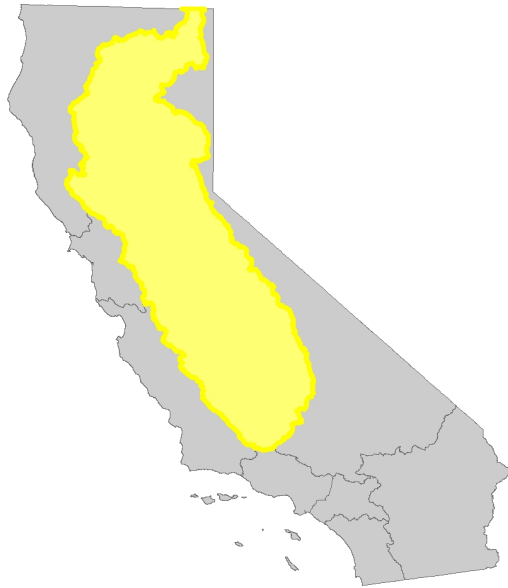
- Staffing
  - 17 personnel years for 25,000 growers (about 1,500 to 1)
  - Other programs (dischargers to staff ratio):
    - Wastewater treatment plants
      - Surface water 10:1
      - Ground water only 64:1
    - Underground storage tanks 70:1
    - Dairy program 110:1



# ILRP Background

- Current program:
  - 2003 and 2006 Conditional Waivers -- EIR
  - Surface water program
  - 8 coalition groups of growers
  - Water quality monitoring and management plan development
- Existing Conditions Report





## CENTRAL VALLEY WATER BOARD BOUNDARIES

### Water Quality Coalition Group Boundaries:

- 1 Goose Lake
- 2 Sacramento Valley
- 3 California Rice Commission
- 4 San Joaquin County & Delta
- 5 East San Joaquin
- 6 Westside San Joaquin River
- 7 Westlands Water District
- 8 Southern San Joaquin Valley



0 70 140 Miles

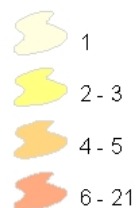




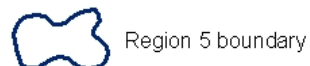
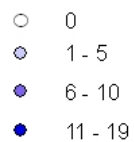
## ILRP Management Plans

\* Generally based on data collected through June 2009. Some management plans are in the planning phase, some are in the implementation phase, a few are completed, and some have been categorized as lower priority and will be prepared and implemented when plans for higher priority pollutants are complete.

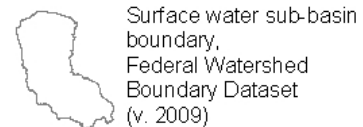
Management Plan  
Sub-basins:  
No. of MONITORING  
SITES with 1 or more  
management plan:



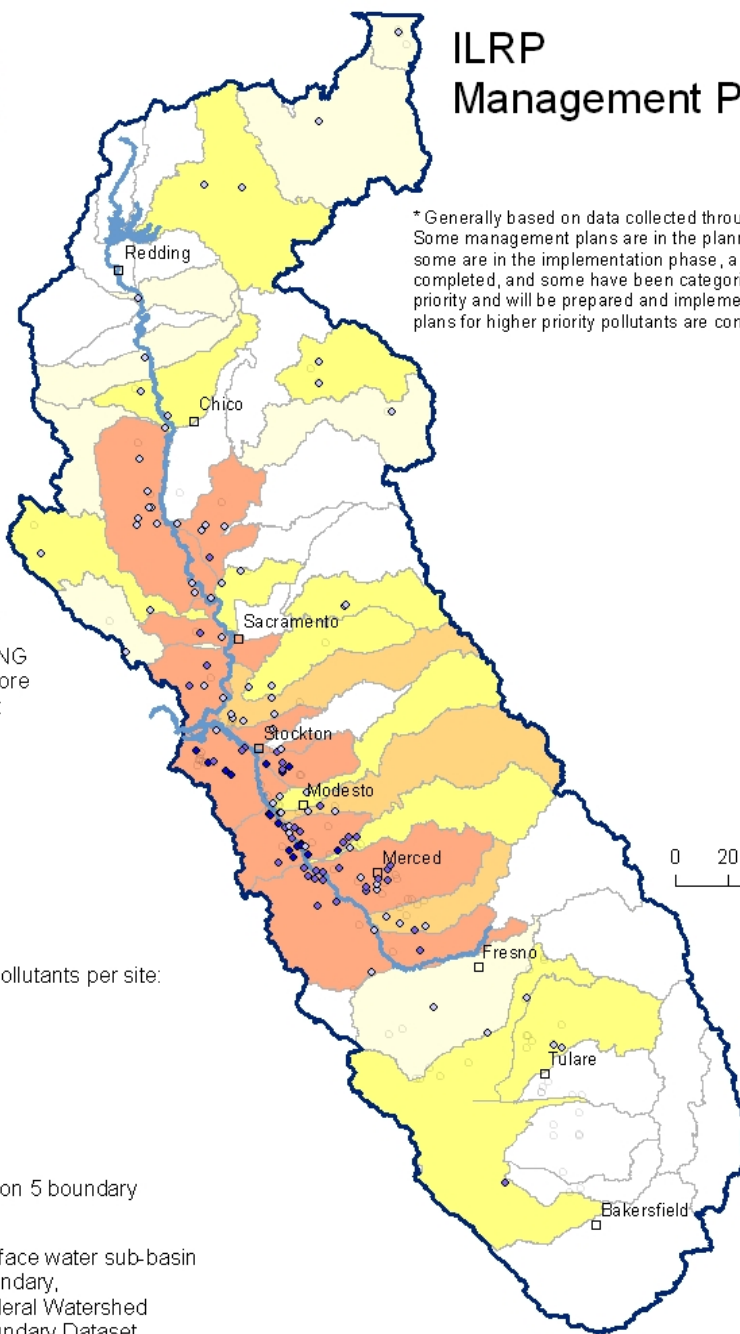
No. of mgt. plan pollutants per site:



Region 5 boundary



Surface water sub-basin  
boundary,  
Federal Watershed  
Boundary Dataset  
(v. 2009)



0 20 40 Miles



# Long-term ILRP Development

- March and April 2008 CEQA scoping meetings
- Stakeholder Advisory Workgroup
  - Coalitions
  - Commodity groups
  - Dairy industry
  - Fertilizer industry
  - Pesticide industry
  - Wetland managers
  - Irrigation districts
  - Water districts
  - Water agencies
  - Farm Bureau
  - Environmental groups
  - Environmental justice
  - Tribal governments
  - Ag Commissioners
  - State and federal agencies

# Workgroup Accomplishments: ILRP Goals and Objectives

- Restore and/or maintain the highest reasonable quality of state waters, considering all the demands being placed on the water
- Minimize waste discharge from irrigated agricultural lands that could degrade the quality of state waters
- Maintain the economic viability of agriculture in California's Central Valley
- Ensure that irrigated agricultural discharges do not impair Central Valley communities and residents access to safe and reliable drinking water



# Workgroup Accomplishments: ILRP Goals and Objectives

Summarized objectives:

- Restore and/or maintain beneficial uses by ensuring that all State waters meet applicable water quality objectives
- Encourage implementation of management practices that improve water quality
- Provide incentives for agricultural operations to minimize waste discharges to State waters
- Promote coordination with other regulatory and non-regulatory programs to minimize duplicative regulatory oversight while ensuring program effectiveness



# Workgroup Accomplishments:

## 5 Program Alternatives

| No. | Alternative                               | Lead Entity <sup>a</sup>                     | WQ Plans <sup>b</sup>      | Monitoring |
|-----|---|--|----------------------------|------------|
| 1   | No Change                                 | Third-party                                  | Yes, regional <sup>c</sup> | Regional   |
| 2   | Third-party Lead Entity                   | Third-party                                  | Yes, regional <sup>c</sup> | Regional   |
| 3   | Individual FWQMP                          | CVWB <sup>d</sup>                            | Yes, farm                  | Farm       |
| 4   | Direct Oversight with Regional Monitoring | Responsible Legal Entity <sup>e</sup> , CVWB | Yes, farm                  | Regional   |
| 5   | Direct Oversight with Farm Monitoring     | CVWB   | Yes, farm                  | Farm       |

a Describes Central Valley Water Board interaction with growers.

b Water Quality Management Plans (WQ Plans)—could be on the farm or regional level.

c Water quality management plans are required only where water quality problems have been identified.

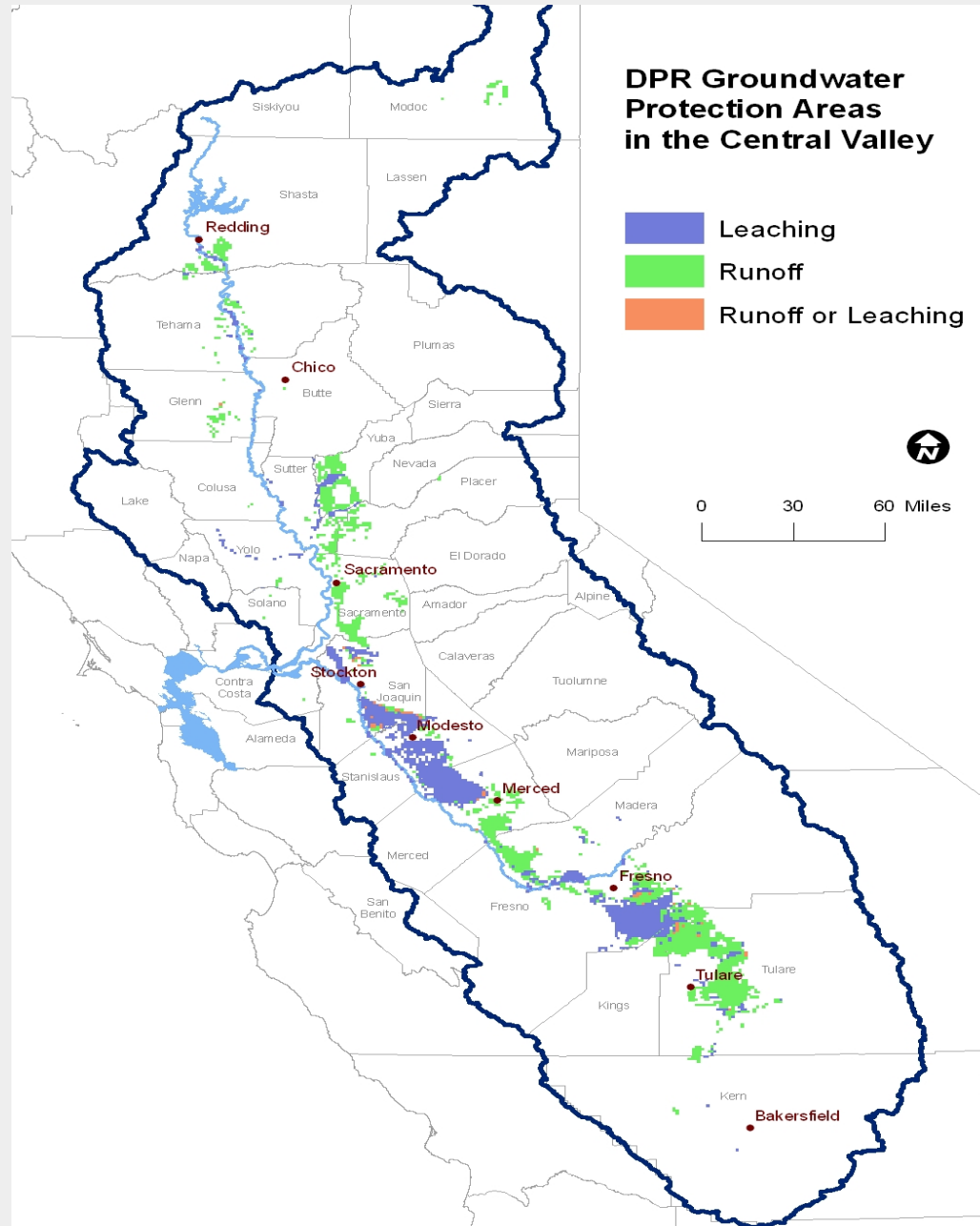
d CVWB = Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board.

e Legal entity assuming responsibility for waste discharge (e.g., Joint Powers Authority).



# Recommended long-term ILRP

- Scope: consideration of surface and groundwater waste discharges
- Third-party or coalition group lead
- 8-12 geographic/commodity-based orders
- Timeframe for implementation
- Prioritized requirements
- Regional surface and groundwater quality management plans
- Regional surface and groundwater quality monitoring
- Time schedule for compliance



# Program EIR analysis

- Potential impacts associated with predicted implementation of management practices
- Practice types predicted:
  - Nutrient management
  - Irrigation water management
  - Tailwater recovery system
  - Pressurized irrigation system
  - Cover crop
  - Buffer strip – sediment trap
  - Abandoned well protection



# Resources with Potentially Significant Impacts

Mitigated to less than significant impacts:

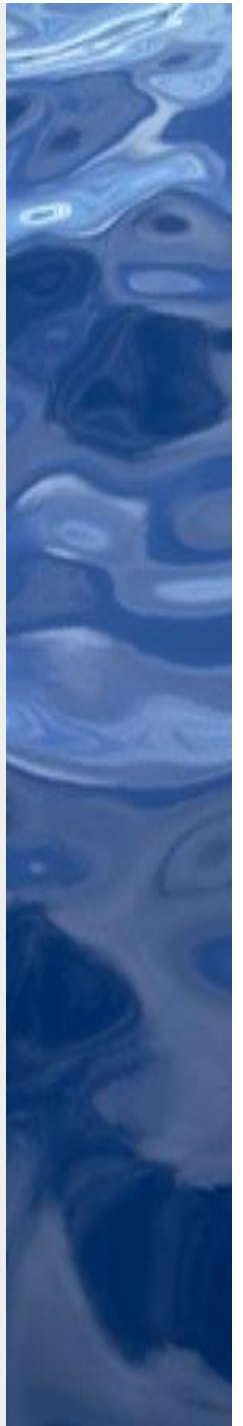
- Cultural resources
- Noise
- Air quality
- Vegetation and wildlife
- Fisheries
- Hydrology and water quality

Significant and unavoidable impact:

- Agriculture resources

Cumulatively considerable impact:

- Climate change





# Mitigation Measures

- Implementation orders (waivers/WDRs); include strategy to:
  - Encourage practices implementation in non-sensitive resource areas,
  - Implement mitigation where practices cannot be moved or another less intrusive practice substituted, or
  - Require additional CEQA work where mitigation is infeasible

# Costs

- Components of analysis :
  - Cost estimate
  - Impact of cost on production
  - Effects on regional economy
- Limitations of analysis:
  - Water code prohibits the Board from specifying practices – practice implementation assumptions based on limited available data concerning present practices
  - Sensitivity analysis for pasture lands –61% reduction in cost if tailwater return systems not implemented

### Summary of Average Estimated Annualized Costs (\$000,000) by Alternative

|                           | 1          | 2          | 3          | 4          | 5            | Rec. ILRP  |
|---------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| Administration            | 5.4        | 6.5        | 70         | 20         | 67           | 6.5        |
| Monitoring                | 6.8        | 10.6       | 35         | 23         | 302          | 17.3       |
| Management practices      | 466        | 468        | 468        | 468        | 952          | 468        |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>478</b> | <b>485</b> | <b>574</b> | <b>511</b> | <b>1,321</b> | <b>492</b> |
| Percent Change from Alt 1 | 0          | 1.4        | 20         | 7          | 176          | 2.9        |

Source: Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program Economics Report  
Totals may not exactly equal the sum of individual cost categories as a result of rounding.

Summary of Changes in Total Value of Production  
(\$000,000) by Basin from Alternative 1 (full implementation of current ILRP)

| <b>Basin</b>   | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>4</b> | <b>5</b> | <b>Rec. ILRP</b> |
|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------------|
| Sacramento River   | -1.3     | -18.3    | -4.5     | -118.4   |                  |
| Percent Change   | -0.0%    | -0.6%    | -0.1%    | -3.6%    |                  |
| San Joaquin River  | -5.5     | -19.2    | -9.2     | -108.1   |                  |
| Percent Change   | -0.2%    | -0.6%    | -0.3%    | -3.2%    |                  |
| Tulare Lake  | -0.6     | -3.3     | -1.2     | -42.2    |                  |
| Percent Change   | -0.0%    | -0.1%    | -0.0%    | -0.7%    |                  |
| Total  | -7.4     | -40.9    | -14.9    | -268.7   | -7.4 to -14.9    |
| Percent Change   | -0.1%    | -0.3%    | -0.1%    | -2.1%    | -0.1%            |
| Source: Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program Economics Report<br>Totals may not sum as a result of rounding. |          |          |          |          |                  |



## Summary of Changes in Agriculture Sector Jobs by Basin from Alternative 1 (full implementation of current ILRP)

| <b>Basin</b>      | <b>2</b>   | <b>3</b>    | <b>4</b> | <b>5</b>     | <b>Rec. ILRP</b> |
|-------------------|------------|-------------|----------|--------------|------------------|
| Sacramento River  | -10        | -108        | 9        | -880         |                  |
| San Joaquin River | -43        | -98         | -26      | -714         |                  |
| Tulare Lake       | -5         | 7           | 26       | -34          |                  |
| <b>Total</b>      | <b>-58</b> | <b>-199</b> | <b>9</b> | <b>-1628</b> | <b>-58 to 9</b>  |

Source: Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program Economics Report  
Represents net impacts on jobs (full- and part-time) in agricultural sectors resulting from changes in agricultural production and compliance-related spending.

# Next Steps

- Comments due on Draft PEIR by September 27, 2010
- Final ILRP and PEIR early 2011
- Board consideration of Final ILRP and PEIR no later than March 31, 2011
- Orders to implement long-term ILRP developed during year following Board certification of PEIR

# PEIR Comments

- The Central Valley Water Board prefers that comments be submitted electronically to the following email address:  
ILRPcomments@icfi.com.
- If email is unavailable, written comments should be provided to:
  - ILRP Comments  
Ms. Megan Smith  
ICF International  
630 K Street, Suite 400  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Fax: (916) 456-6724

Next: Breakout sessions for  
questions and discussion





# Contact Information

- Long-term irrigated lands regulatory program: Adam Laputz
  - Phone: (916) 464-4848
  - Email: [awlaputz@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:awlaputz@waterboards.ca.gov)
- Long-term program website:
  - [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water\\_issues/irrigated\\_lands/development\\_long\\_term\\_ilrp/index.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/irrigated_lands/development_long_term_ilrp/index.shtml)

